

## Arizona Reading Standard Performance Level Descriptors Grade 3

**The performance descriptors are based upon the utilization of grade-level appropriate reading materials.**

**Exceeds the Standard** – Students who score in this level illustrate a superior academic performance as evidenced by achievement that is substantially beyond the goal for all students. Students who perform at this level demonstrate the ability to determine the meaning of words and phrases using context clues, use reading comprehension strategies to draw conclusions and analyze literary elements, and evaluate informational text to determine fact from opinion.

**Meets the Standard** – Students who score in this level demonstrate a solid academic performance on subject matter as reflected by the reading standard. Students who perform at this level are able to identify character traits, setting, and the sequence of events. In addition to noting the topic sentence in a paragraph, they are able to identify the main idea and supporting details in informational text.

**Approaches the Standard** – Students who score in this level show partial understanding of the knowledge and application of the skills that are fundamental for proficient work. Students who perform at this level show some understanding of decoding skills, using pictures and information from the text to determine the meaning of simple words. They are able to identify images which appeal to the senses and repetition that is utilized in poetry. Some gaps in knowledge and skills are evident and may require additional instruction and remediation in order to achieve a satisfactory level of understanding.

**Falls Far Below the Standard** – Students who score in this level may have significant gaps and limited knowledge and skills that are necessary to satisfactorily meet the state’s reading standard. Students will usually require a considerable amount of additional instruction and remediation in order to achieve a satisfactory level of understanding.

| Students at the “Exceeds the Standard” level generally know the skills required at the “Meets” and “Approaches” levels and are able to:   | Students at the “Meets the Standard” level generally know the skills required at the “Approaches” level and are able to:  | Students at the “Approaches the Standard” level generally know and are able to:  |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Divide words into syllables.</li><li>• Identify features of a paragraph.</li><li>• Use context clues to determine the meaning of words and phrases.</li><li>• Identify the genre of literary text.</li><li>• Differentiate fact from opinion in informational text.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identify synonyms and antonyms.</li><li>• Identify the topic sentence in a paragraph.</li><li>• Describe character traits.</li><li>• Identify and describe the speaker or narrator using text evidence.</li><li>• Identify rhyme in poetry.</li><li>• Use graphic organizers to comprehend text.</li><li>• Identify main idea and supporting details in informational text.</li><li>• Sequence events and place multi-step directions in order.</li><li>• Interpret information in functional text.</li><li>• Identify persuasive vocabulary.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Alphabetize words to the 3<sup>rd</sup> letter.</li><li>• Identify common suffixes and root words.</li><li>• Identify correct word order for sentences.</li><li>• Apply spelling patterns.</li><li>• Identify common synonyms.</li><li>• Use context clues and pictures to determine the meaning of simple words.</li><li>• Identify sensory images and repetition in poetry.</li><li>• Identify specific facts in text.</li></ul> |

**These descriptors do not include all the skills and knowledge as contained in the Reading Standard.**